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BUY THE EVENING TIMES TO-DAY—ALL THE NEWS FOR 1 CT.

NO LIGHT IN DARK PLACES

Public Parks and Places That Are Not Illuminated.

LURKING PLACE OF THUGS

Franklin, Lafayette and the Smithsonian Grounds Never Penetrated by Light of Any Sort—Col. Wilson Has Asked Congress to Vain for Money to Protect These Spaces.

There are three of the most beautiful parks in Washington into which nothing good goes on moonlight nights, not even the rays of the moon, the police, the glimmer of daylight, or the glare of the electric lamp.

These three are Franklin, Lafayette Square, and the Smithsonian grounds. The latter, however, only a part of the dark region which extends all the way from the White House ellipse east to near the Capitol grounds.

The condition of these three other parks when the moon supercedes the Washington Gaslight Company and the electric light company's contracts compares unfavorably with that of any untraveled country on the globe.

It is not an infrequent sight to see very young girls at midnight hours of the night emerging out of these sylvan solitudes on the arm of men who know it is easiest to capture fledgling doves. It would be interesting to know how many of the fallen leaves of Washington can trace their downward path to nights of misguided affection in the parks, near or far from their homes. This can only be conjectured, for English sparrows tell no tales.

Col. Wilson, the superintendent of the park, was asked yesterday if anything had been done toward decreasing these dangers to the young and innocent. He said that he had twice called attention to these evils, and he asked Congress for an appropriation for the sufficient lighting of Lafayette Square, Franklin Park and the Smithsonian grounds. "And," said he, "I am sure that the Congress will be practical in these places one of the grounds for my request."

Congress has not responded, and he had nothing to light up the other side of the park, and the darkness in the night is a fact of life. Pending the appropriation the moon will continue to light up the other side of the park, and the darkness in the night is a fact of life.

Nothing could be easier of execution than the crime of which The Times cartoon speaks better than words. Whether or not they play their trade in the dark park in the center of a city, it is a fine field for the thief, for the sneak, for the loaded rascal, for the grasp of the throat, and a knock down blow.

What could be easier than the robbery of a wayfarer through a park the interior of which is absolutely invisible from the surrounding streets. It is sheer nonsense to assume that a night inspector can keep his eye on the invisible.

This is no fancy sketch. Every now and then perhaps a policeman or park watchman flits through the shadows, but he is a harmless silhouette. He offends nobody's modesty and nobody's modesty can offend him.

REPLY OF THE POLICEMAN. "At what time of night," a policeman was asked yesterday, "do you order the watchmen on these benches to their homes?" "Oh, I don't order them home at all," he said, "so long as they behave themselves."

"So then you are judge, jury, and executioner of what constitutes an offense?" "I think I am," said the man at the hat quite conclusively.

Imagine a lynx-eyed detective undertaking the contract of discovering from the street anything worthwhile condemning or approving when there is nothing before him but shade and shadow, and inaudible whisper.

In the cartoon there are several duos, male and female, which tell their own story graphically.

The young man is on the edge of one of these internal gloomy forests of Washington. One can hear and see him invite Maid into the garden. One or two other scenes from these mighty tragedies of human life are given to illustrate the girl who has learned to love the shaded park and the secluded bench better than the street or cable car.

Any one who has or takes occasion to go through these parks at night, say from 10 to 11 o'clock and especially on moonlight nights, will find the benches well filled with couples, the female part of which, at least, should be home with her mother. It is only one step from the park to the disgrace and it is only the first step that costs.

FREQUENTERS OF THE PARKS. And what an incongruous assembly is this under the trees. You are not aware of their presence until you are abreast of them. There are about as many faces as black as the shade or as yellow as the moonlight, as there are those which are as white as the occasional flash of the passer's mantle or the lady's jewelry.

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HOW ABOUT THIS, COMMISSIONERS?

A FAVORITE SPOT FOR SUICIDES

A CONVENIENT PLACE FOR HOLOUPS

Dr. Radford, the Biggest Counterfeiter, Eluded the Watchers.

Was the Backer of the Gang of Which Brockway Was the Chief—Suspicion of Collusion.

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Bradford's escape has some features of similarity to the flight of the three post-office robbers, Elliman, Russell and Allen, from the Ludlow street jail, and it may be brought before the federal grand jury.

Bradford is from Farmington, Me., and is reputed to be wealthy.

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"DRIVE ON," SAID HOKE.

The Secretary Held Up by a Wordy Populist Herd.

(By United Press.)

Athens, Ga., Aug. 6.—This morning while Secretary Smith was en route to Jefferson from Athens, he was met on the road by Lee Lavender, a Populist, who piled him with many questions and used very offensive language, telling him he was a turncoat, traitor, etc.

Secretary Smith treated the remarks as coming from an insane man and instructed his coachman to drive on.

End of the Irvine Bank Case.

Lexington, Va., Aug. 6.—All of the indictments in the county court against C. W. Irvine, the business partner of C. M. Elgar, cashier and wrecker of the Bank of Lexington, were this morning nolle prossed by the commonwealth's attorney and the prisoner honorably discharged.

This closes the Irvine bank case.

For a Davis Monument.

Richmond, Va., Aug. 6.—The committee appointed by the Grand Camp Confederate Veterans of Virginia to help raise funds for the Jefferson Davis monument held its first meeting here tonight. There is \$13,000 in bank to the credit of the monument fund, exclusive of the \$10,000 pledged by the camps at Houston.

Texas Populist in Session.

Fort Worth, Tex., Aug. 6.—The second day's session of the Populist State convention was begun in a torrent of oratory. All the national leaders of the party are here, either personally or by letter. Judge Nugent seems to have small opposition for governor.

Marine Band Concert.

The programme for the concert of the Marine Band at the Capital this evening, beginning at 5:40 o'clock, is as follows:

1. a. March, "Light Infantry," b. Campagna.

2. Overture, "Militair," c. Mendelssohn.

3. a. March, "High School Cadets," b. Sousa.

4. a. March, "Corona Cadets," b. Verdi.

5. a. March, "National Fencibles," b. Sousa.

6. Military Fantasia, c. Ponchielli.

7. a. March, "Troop A," b. Fanciulli.

8. a. March, "Troop B," b. Fanciulli.

9. Descriptive, "A Day With Troop A," b. Fanciulli.

Synopsis—Hunting in the army; signals previous to departure; march; campfire; taps; repose; from night to dawn; foraging; attack on a barn yard; the boys enjoy a romp and dance; company march.

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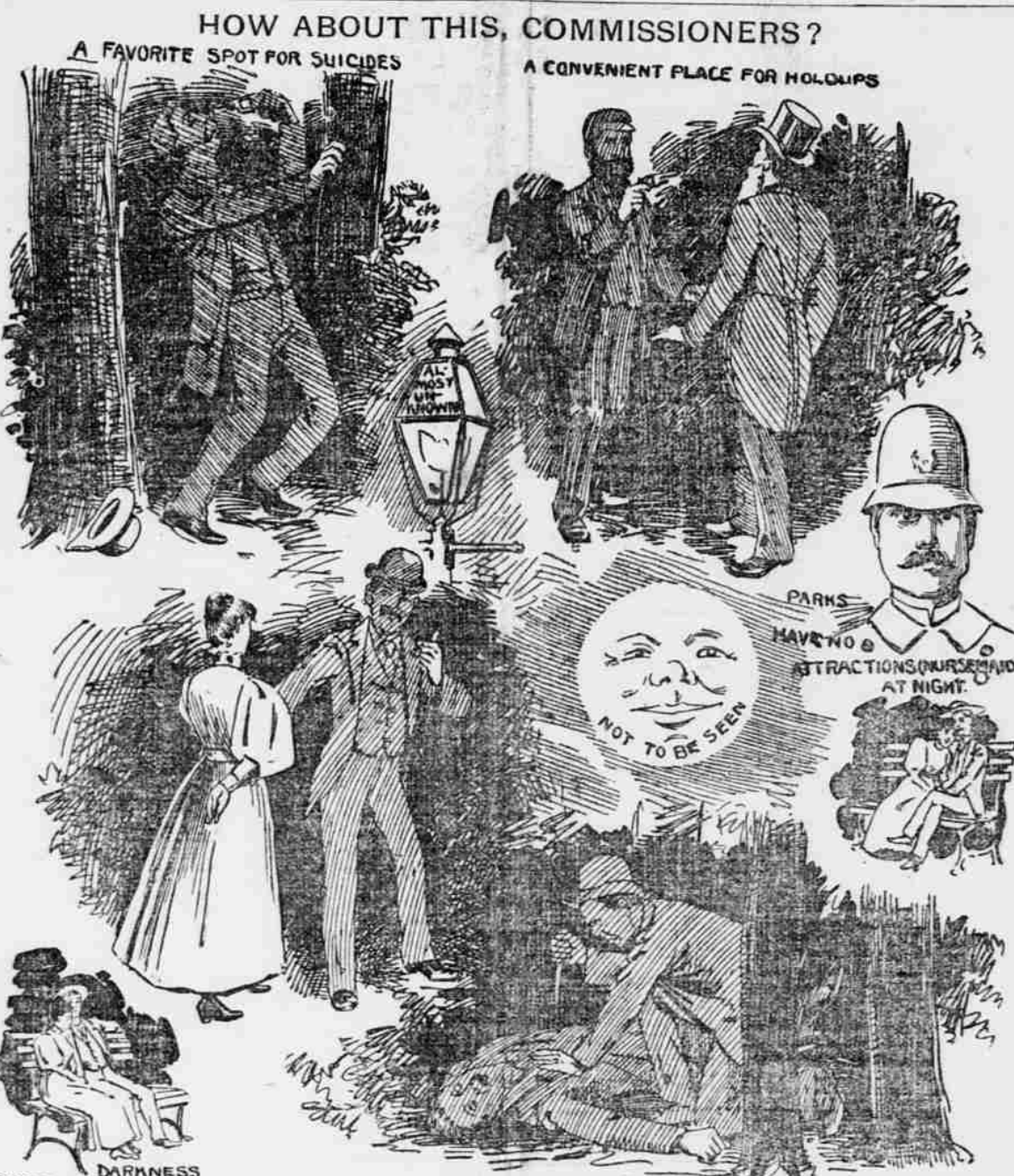
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Give the people more light, and the bums less opportunity.

FOLLOWED BLAND'S LEAD

Missouri Democratic Convention Commits Party to Free Coinage.

Senator Cockrell and Gov. Stone Committed Free Coinage, but Their Suggestions Fell Upon Deaf Ears.

(By United Press.)

Porter Springs, Mo., Aug. 6.—In the presence of 2,500 people 514 of whom were delegates, the Democratic party of Missouri in convention here today committed itself to the principle of the free coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1, and reorganized the State central committee so as to place the party machinery entirely out of the control of the gold men.

"Silver Dick" Bland dominated the gathering completely. He was temporary and permanent chairman and in opening the convention, stated deliberately that the time had come for the silver men to assume control of the party machinery and run it with a view of accomplishing their ends.

Bland's idea of reorganization is looked upon as bad politics and it was a terrible slash at the old State central committee which was the Maffei Francis administration machine.

The relations between the turned-down committeemen and their party colleagues are so strained that in the coming campaign, if conducted on a free-silver basis, they will practically be without party alliances.

Bland's fight was won after bitter caucus with Senator Cockrell, Gov. Stone, and other prominent leaders who counseled compromise. The delegates were with him and his programme was enthusiastically carried out.

The convention was noticeable for lack of speech-making, considering the weighty nature of the business transacted. There were no fights on the floor of the convention, and the reorganization of the committee and the adoption of the platform were carried by a practically unanimous vote.

DEATHS OF A DAY.

Savannah, Ga., Aug. 6.—Rev. R. I. Way, one of the oldest Presbyterian ministers in the South, died today.

Augusta, Ga., Aug. 6.—Gen. M. A. Stovall died today after an illness of several months at the age of seventy-seven years.

Campos Safe at Havana.

Spanish General Alleged to Have Turned Up at Last.

Havana, Aug. 6.—Capt. Gen. Martinez Campos arrived here at 1 o'clock this morning.

A dispatch from Santa Clara says the column of Spanish troops under command of Lieut. Ruiz had an engagement at Pinar del Rio with a band of insurgents, in which two of the rebels were killed. A band of rebels in the Santiago province yesterday morning ambushed a train on which were a number of miners and fired several shots, wounding one of the passengers. The attack occurred in the vicinity of Pinar. Upon returning from Songo with a force of troops the miners found that the railroad had been torn up near Pinar. One of the miners was killed.

Quay's Voice Is Still for War.

Philadelphia, Pa., Aug. 6.—Senator Quay tonight issued a formal statement in reply to the charge that he had proposed to David Martin, the Republican leader of this city, a bargain looking to the cessation of hostilities between them.

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FERGUS A. REDMOND.

THOUSANDS IN A PANIC

Buffalo Bill's Big Tent Blown to Tatters by Storm.

PEOPLE ACTED AS IF MAD

(By United Press.)

Oswego, N. Y., Aug. 6.—While Buffalo Bill's "Wild West" show was giving a performance before 12,000 people here this afternoon a terrific rain and wind storm struck the town.

The immense dressing tent was blown to tatters and many of the men were injured. The horses with the show were also stampeded.

Following this the east half of the canvas-covered grand stand was blown away, and the 6,000 people sheltered in that part of the field rushed down the seats in a wild panic. Many women and children were trampled upon and badly hurt, but were soon assisted away to their homes.

The Indians prevented a stampede of the western half of the audience across the arena by crowding their horses against the ropes.

The band did not stop playing during the excitement and at the very worst moment struck up the "Star Spangled Banner."

Among the severely injured is an employee of the show, named Brown, who is at the city hospital with a fractured skull. A little girl was nearly drowned before assistance reached her, and a Mrs. Flanagan had her head badly hurt by a flying pole.

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GROVER TO PRESS A BUTTON

Will Start the Atlanta Exposition Machinery at Gray Gables.

Declined Escort of the Gate City Guard in Gether Because He Wished to Avoid Display.

(By United Press.)

Buzzard's Bay, Mass., Aug. 6.—Gov. Bullock, of Georgia, chairman of the committee on ceremonies and ceremonial days of the Cotton States and International Exposition, called on the President today to request him to press the electric button here to start the wheels in the exposition at Atlanta September 18, and also to tender the services of the Gate City Guard, the crack Georgia military company as an honorary escort from Washington to Atlanta and return on October 23, when the President and his Cabinet will visit the exhibition.

The President assured Gov. Bullock that he would take great pleasure in pressing the button and starting the wheels on the 18th, either from Gray Gables or wherever he might be on that day. As to the escort, the President said he fully appreciated the compliment tendered him by the military company, but his desire to avoid display compelled him to decline the honor.

Hon. John E. Russell was a caller at Gray Gables this afternoon. There was no politics in his visit, as he asserts, and he simply called to pay his respects to Mrs. Cleveland and her mother.

Mrs. Cleveland was fishing nearly all day, so that Mr. Russell did not see him, and returned to Boston on the first train.

The President will not give out as yet his opinion on the bill fight.

PENNSYLVANIA POLITICS.

Huntingdon, Pa., Aug. 6.—The Huntingdon county Republican convention today elected T. W. Montgomery and Frank H. Harrison delegates to the State convention, instructed to vote for Senator Quay.

The convention desired for a modified McKinley tariff bill; against the free coinage of silver, and unanimously endorsed Senator Quay.

Schenectady, Pa., Aug. 6.—The fourth and final Lackawanna county district convention was held here today. James E. Watkins was elected delegate from the Third district to the State convention. He was the Hastings candidate.

Susquehanna, Pa., Aug. 6.—The Republican nominating convention today elected two delegates instructed to support Senator Quay for the State chairmanship.

Chambersburg, Pa., Aug. 6.—The Franklin county delegates to-night passed a resolution to vote for Senator Quay in the coming convention. This was in consequence of a rumor to the effect that the Hastings forces would try to influence at least one of the delegates from this county to vote for Col. Gilkeson for State chairman.

Died From His Injuries.

Andrew Loveless, a farmer, aged twenty-five years, who was badly beaten about the head at his home in Woodbridge, Va., on August 1, and was brought to Providence Hospital on the following day, died at the hospital shortly after noon yesterday from the result of his injuries. His relatives at Woodbridge were notified, and his body will be taken to that place this morning.

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